

# LittletonReport

April/May 2022

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#### What's Inside

All meetings, programs and events listed in this issue are subject to change or cancellation depending on health and safety considerations.









### Aspen Grove Development to be Decided by Voters in November

The Littleton City Council voted 6-0 at its February 1 meeting to refer a question to voters concerning the redevelopment of the Aspen Grove Center at 7301 South Santa Fe Drive.

On November 9, 2021, the city council approved Aspen Grove's 4th Amendment to the Newton Property General Planned Development Plan which would allow up to 2,000 residential units on the property maintaining a minimum of 125,000 square-feet of commercial space. Aspen Grove owners, the Gerrity Group, stated in their letter of intent, "How we shop has changed. The convenience of online retail and evolution of the industry has changed the type of real estate retailers demand and the environment customers seek. Our proposal to amend the PD to add residential, hotel, new gathering spaces, and other similar uses is intended to improve the viability and vibrancy of retail at Aspen Grove. It will result in a healthy infusion of new frequent shoppers and diners so critical to our continued success."

Petitioners needed to submit at least 3,599 signatures to trigger the reconsideration by city council pursuant to the city's charter. A total of 3,729 signatures were verified by the city clerk, requiring the city council to either repeal the approval or refer the matter to registered electors. Voters will consider the question on November 8, 2022 in accordance with the city charter.

The Aspen Grove Center opened in 2001 and is one of Littleton's major retail centers.

#### **Progress Continues on City Manager Recruitment**

The Littleton City Council selected CPS HR Consulting to lead the executive recruitment to find Littleton's next city manager. City Manager Mark Relph notified the council December 7 of his intention to retire on June 1, 2022.

For more than 18 years, the firm has specialized in the recruitment and selection of key professionals for cities, counties, special districts, and non-profits and has a regional office in Littleton. The recruitment is expected to take several months at a cost of \$25,000 plus expenses. CPS HR Consulting has successfully recruited dozens of executive city management positions throughout the country, and in Colorado for the cities of Aurora, Greeley, Woodland Park, and Boulder.

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# City Council Affirms Goals at 2022 Retreat

The Littleton City Council and Leadership Team, led by Facilitator David Marvin, spent two full days in mid-February considering and affirming goals and a rolling workplan for the next two years. Key considerations included: planning and continuity, commitment to core services, COVID recovery, and recruitment of Littleton's next city manager.

Utilizing the Leadership Framework as a guiding tool, interspersed with discussions on leadership from the book, *Difficult Conversations*, the council and staff considered seven goals and associated workplans for the next two years. These goals are a carryover of goals established in 2021 with one of them, adoption of the Unified Land Use Code, already complete. The goals are:

- Financial Sustainability (data-driven financial analysis, revenue diversity, leveraging one-time recovery funds, regional planning and strategic investments)
- Downtown (partnerships; and downtown streetscape, utilities, and parking planning)
- Innovative Infrastructure (strategically planned technology/facilities investments, implement Transportation Master Plan, digital transformation, partnerships)
- Arts, Culture, Tourism (implement Arts & Culture Commission Strategic Plan, increase regional tourism opportunities, improve accessibility and expansion of library programs)
- Housing and Livability (housing diversity and affordability)
- Environmental Stewardship (define values, create citizen committee, align resources)
- Good Governance (high-performing organization, city manager recruitment, continuous improvement to city code, council protocols and standards of conduct)

Council will consider formally adopting the goals this spring in advance of discussion and preparation of the 2023 budget. This will include specific action steps and measurements to achieve the goals.

Littleton

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#### **City Manager Recruitment**

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The recruitment team interviewed the city council and members of the leadership team to determine qualities and characteristics of the ideal candidate:

- Innovative, visionary, progressive and willing to take reasonable risks
- Dedicated to diversity, equity, and inclusion
- Embraces staff expertise and autonomy while valuing accountability
- Flexible, adaptable, and able to adjust when council priorities or city needs change
- Authentic, reliable, leads with empathy and compassion
- Critical thinker and an accomplished problem solver
- Collaborative and devoted to community engagement
- Straightforward, transparent, and willing to effectively communicate to council when changes to priorities require additional resources or changes to the work plan
- Honors the past but ensures the city is strategically focused going forward
- Approachable, calm, patient, and a servant leader
- Fact and data-driven decision-maker
- Experience with a changing culture and organizational development
- Exemplifies organizational values

Over the next 5 to 8 years, the next city manager will need to focus on opportunities and challenges that include managing growth; increased traffic; re-emerging as a regional partner; economic development; infrastructure improvements; COVID recovery; diversifying demographics; maintaining momentum and carrying the torch; overseeing future 3A bonding; and discussions around homelessness and affordable housing.

A bachelor's degree or advanced degree in public administration, business administration, or other related field plus 10 years' experience as a leader, supervisor, and executive in a municipality or local government of similar characteristics, or an equivalent combination of education and experience is expected. A graduate degree in public or business administration or related field is preferred.

Those interested may submit a resume, cover letter, and six work-related references by Monday, April 11. Applications can be submitted at this website: cpshr.us/about/careers.

Opportunities for the public to engage with the candidates will be available once a group of finalists has been selected this spring.

#### **Littleton Sales and Use Tax Report**

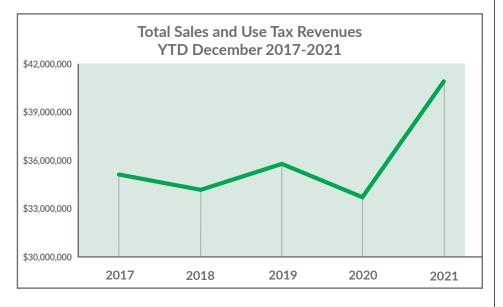
Littleton's sales and use taxes from December 2021 were 20% higher than December 2020. Sales and use taxes are the city's largest source of revenue. Changes in sales tax revenues can significantly impact the city's ability to provide services. Reporting and monitoring of tax revenues helps to understand trends.

The 3.0% sales and use tax revenues (retail sales tax, general use tax, and motor vehicle tax) are used for daily operations such as police, public works, community development, library, museum, and other general operations. This fund is called the "General Fund."

Comparisons for 2019 and 2020 are provided to give context during years when COVID forced numerous businesses to close or reduce hours.

Overall, December 2021 compared to December 2020 sales and use taxes for the General Fund of \$39.15 million were higher than 2020 by \$6.52 million.

Overall, December 2021 compared to December 2019 sales and use taxes for the General Fund of \$39.15 million were higher than 2019 by \$4.91 million or 14%.



#### **Public Works Team Busy**

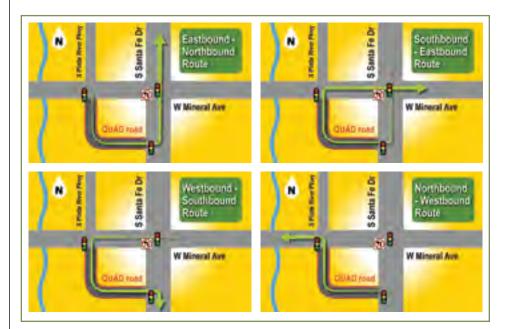
The Littleton Public Works team is hard at work with multiple projects happening in 2022. From completing the reconstruction of the Rio Grande Bridge to constructing a multi-modal trail through Geneva Park, work is being done throughout the city. Traffic signal poles are being replaced throughout town and raised crosswalks with flashing beacons are set to be installed in various locations. For a complete list of projects, timelines, and updates, visit the Public Works Capital Projects Dashboard at www.littletongov.org/pw-projects.

#### Updates on the Santa Fe Drive and Mineral Avenue Intersection Improvements Project

Thank you to those who participated in the Open Littleton survey about the Santa Fe Drive and Mineral Avenue Improvements Project. City staff read the 210 comments from 126 responses and documented the overall results to consider in the design process. The city developed a Frequently Asked Questions document to address questions and concerns. These questions and answers can be viewed on the project website at littletongov.org/santafe-mineral.

The project team is developing the preliminary design of the quadrant roadway solution, a proven and effective way to reduce congestion and improve safety at this intersection. Conceptual designs will be presented to the public this summer.

Visit the website to learn more about how a quadrant roadway works, sign up for the project distribution list, and stay updated on future engagement opportunities.



## Senior Refund Program Returns for 2022 and Goes Online

Since 1977, the Littleton City Council has annually renewed its Senior Refund Program, providing the city's senior residents with a refund. The program is available to both renters and property owners. For property owners, the refund is based on the property's assessed valuation. Refund amounts range from \$10 to \$100. Refunds for renters range from \$10 to \$30. If the property title was transferred to a trust or other legal entity for estate planning purposes, it may now be eligible for a property tax refund based on the property's assessed valuation. Applicants must be 65 years of age or older on or before December 31, 2021 and resided within the city limits of Littleton for the entire year of 2021.

Applications open April 1, 2022 and the city has a new online form. Applicants can visit Bemis Public Library to use a computer and get staff help completing the online form. The last date to submit is October 31, 2022. To request assistance with the online application or for other questions call 303-795-3764.

#### **Denver Water Pipe Replacement**

Denver Water is working to replace underground water mains in the Goddard neighborhood. The work began in mid-March and is expected to last about four months. Residents in the area will receive notices prior to construction and will be notified at least 24 hours in advance of any planned water outages. While unlikely, emergency water shut-offs may occur. For more information contact Denver Water Customer



Care at 303-893-2444, Monday-Friday from 7:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m. or visit denverwater.org/pipes. Denver Water will also provide periodic updates throughout the project via social media platforms.

#### Littleton Recognized as 3rd Safest Small City in Colorado

The City of Littleton was named the 3rd Safest Small City in Colorado in a report from MoneyGeek. The report ranked cities across the country with populations between 30,000 to 100,000. Colorado had seven cities that made the list. The study evaluated crime statistics reported to the FBI by evaluating crime cost per capita, violent crime rates, property crime rates, cost of crime, and population. Castle Rock was named the safest small city, Parker was second, and Littleton came in at number three.



# **Transportation Improvements Planned Along Mineral Avenue**



The City of Littleton is working to identify and design transportation improvements in the area along West Mineral Avenue east of Santa Fe Drive to approximately South Windermere Street. Improvements are needed to create safer and more complete options for bicyclists and pedestrians who travel in this area. Improvements are being considered at multiple locations and could include separated bike lanes and an improved trail along Mineral

Welcome \* 欢迎 · Biem

Avenue, changes at intersections to boost safety for bicyclists and pedestrians, and upgraded crossings of roadways for High Line Canal Trail users. Through a robust planning process incorporating community input, the city will identify a set of improvements aimed at enhancing transportation mode choices and connectivity while increasing safety.

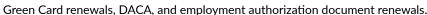
Many community members have already contributed ideas to the alternatives development and screening process. Join the project mailing list to be notified of an opportunity to share thoughts regarding the draft preferred alternatives this spring by visiting www.littletongov.org/MineralMobilityImprovements.

The total budget for planning, design, and construction is \$2 million. The project is funded using a "Safer Main Streets" grant from the Colorado Department of Transportation. Construction is anticipated to begin in 2023.

# Littleton Immigrant Resource Center Returns to Bemis Public Library

At its March 1 meeting, the Littleton City Council voted to reinstate the Littleton Immigrant Resource Center (LIRC) at Bemis Public Library. The award-winning program was slated to close at the end of 2022. It has been recognized by Harvard's 'Bright Idea' program as well as the National League of Cities for helping immigrants participate in their community.

LIRC has staff who are certified to practice immigration law before the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS). Staff provide consultations on immigration issues and help clients apply for Naturalization (U.S. Citizenship),



Staff provide group online and in-person ESL classes for adults at beginner and intermediate levels. Each class is taught two days per week in the morning or evening.

The language partners program matches immigrants who wish to improve their English language skills with trained volunteer mentors for one-on-one language tutoring. The tutoring schedules are flexible in order to accommodate the busy schedules of students and volunteers. This is done in a fun and respectful environment with a goal of improving students' confidence and English communication skills.

The LIRC is recruiting new volunteers and calling back the amazing veterans for its Language Partners Program. Volunteers will tutor English and citizenship classes. Call 303-795-3968 or email libgmr@littletongov.org to learn more.

# **Cindie Perry Named Littleton Economic Development Director**

Littleton City Manager Mark Relph selected Cindie Perry as Economic Development Director effective February 9. Perry's 20-year career in public administration includes experience in operations, leadership, communications, business management, administration, and program development.

Perry previously was the Deputy Director of two departments for the City of Riverside, California: Public Works and General Services. She was also Deputy Director of Economic Development for San Bernardino County, California.

Perry earned a bachelor's degree in business administration and management, and a master's degree in business and administration from the University of Redlands.

"Cindie's deep knowledge of municipal government and incredible expertise in economic development will help us build relationships with internal stakeholders and business audiences in rapid fashion," Relph said. "Much of 2022 will be setting the stage to update the city's economic development strategy and next steps and deliver on city council's expectations."





#### Bemis Library and Littleton Museum Return to Pre-COVID Hours

The Littleton City Council voted March 1 to restore funding and staffing to 100% at both the Littleton Museum and Bemis Public Library. These facilities were hard hit by the pandemic due to early retirements and furloughs. The museum and library returned to new hours March 6.

#### **Bemis Public Library**

Sunday: 1-5 p.m. (return to Sunday service) Monday-Thursday: 9 a.m.-8 p.m. (close 1 hour later) Friday: 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

Saturday: 9 a.m.-5 p.m. (open 1 hour earlier)

#### Littleton Museum

Tuesday-Saturday: 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Sunday: 11 a.m.-5 p.m. (return to Sunday service) Closed Mondays

#### Citywide Citizen Meeting Saturday, May 14

Save the date. Council Member Pam Grove and Mayor Pro Tem Gretchen Rydin will host a citywide citizen meeting on Saturday, May 14 from 10-11 a.m. All Littleton residents and business owners are invited and attendees are encouraged to bring questions. There will be a short discussion on current topics relevant to the city and then a question and answer session. The in-person meeting will be held at Sterne Park at the south pavilion, located at 5800 South Spotswood Street. For questions, contact Council Member Grove at pgrove@ littletongov.org or Mayor Pro Tem Rydin at grydin@littletongov.org.

#### District III Meeting Saturday, May 21

Council Member Stephen Barr will host a District III citizen meeting May 21 at 10 a.m. All Littleton residents and business owners are invited and attendees are encouraged to bring questions. The format will be similar to previous District III meetings. The in-person meeting will be at the Bemis Public Library, 6014 South Datura Street. For questions, contact Council Member Barr at sbarr@littletongov. org or visit www.steve4littleton.org for more information.

## Littleton City Council



Kyle Schlachter Mayor kschlachter@littletongov.org 720-773-0401



Stephen Barr District III sbarr@littletongov.org 720-443-0465



Patrick Driscoll
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Pam Grove
At Large
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Kelly Milliman District IV kmilliman@littletongov.org 720-468-1324



**Gretchen Rydin** At Large, Mayor Pro Tem grydin@littletongov.org 720-507-5401



Jerry Valdes District II jvaldes@littletongov.org 303-810-1465





# Learn How Elections Work

Arapahoe County is offering guided small group tours of the Elections Facility and Warehouse every Friday through May 27. These tours will be led by the Deputy Director of Elections, Peg Perl. Perl will provide a step-by-step walkthrough of the mail ballot system, highlight the methods for preserving election integrity and ballot security, and answer questions. To book a tour or for more information email tskelley@arapahoegov.com.





8 a.m. Veterans Circle in Littleton Cemetery

11 a.m. Littleton World War II Memorial in Ketring Park

Program presented by the Littleton VFW Post 4666 and the American Legion Post 103 and highlighted by The El Jebel Shrine Pipe Band and the All Veterans Honor Guard.



# Downtown Littleton Historic Walking Tours

Travel back in time with a tour of buildings, lives, and events on a historic walking tour of the Littleton Downtown Historic District. During the tour learn about the history of the buildings, including the architecture, and the people who owned them.

The tours will be presented on first Fridays – May 6, June 3, July 1, and September 2, at 6 p.m. Also, on Fridays during Western Welcome Week in August at 5 and 6 p.m.

Meet in front of the Littleton Courthouse at 2069 West Littleton Boulevard. This tour is free, but donations are appreciated. The historic tours are guided by Historic Littleton, Inc. www.hlinc.org.



#### South Platte Renew Hosting 2022 River Clean-Up

South Platte Renew (SPR) is hosting the annual River Clean-Up April 11-23. Building off the success of last year's virtual event, this year will be a hybrid of DIY (do-it-yourself) efforts throughout the two weeks, leading up to the clean-up of Centennial Park Saturday, April 23, from 9 a.m.-12 p.m.

Volunteers can join SPR and the cities of Littleton and Englewood by collecting debris and trash from their neighborhoods, local rivers, lakes, or parks. Volunteers ages nine and older are welcome to join in-person at Centennial Park on April 23.

This year's goal is to collect 250 bags of trash and recycling throughout the event. SPR will share clean-up progress online, and participants who register will be entered to win prizes.

To get involved with the 2022 River Clean-Up, visit www.southplatterenewco.gov to register and learn more. For questions contact SPRCommunications@englewoodco.gov.

# New Public-Private Management Model for the High Line Canal



Canal leaders (left to right): Chief Executive Officer Jim Lochhead, Denver Water; Board Chair Paula Herzmark, High Line Canal Conservancy; Executive Director Harriet Crittenden LaMair, High Line Canal Conservancy; Commissioner Nancy Sharpe, Arapahoe County; Open Spaces Director Shannon Carter, Arapahoe County; Chief Operations and Maintenance Officer Tom Roode, Denver Water; Council Member Kendra Black, City and County of Denver; and Deputy Executive Director of Parks & Recreation Scott Gilmore, City and County of Denver.

On January 26, the High Line Canal Conservancy announced the public-private partnership known as the Canal Collaborative that formalized a new partnership between 13 regional entities to preserve, protect, and enhance the 71mile High Line Canal. This powerful collaborative brings partners together in a collective impact model - working together to support the canal's transition from a part of Denver Water's historic irrigation system to its new role as a 71-mile linear park and emerging stormwater management system. The newly-formed Canal Collaborative formalizes roles and responsibilities for the longterm management, funding, and governance of the canal. Over the next 15 years, the collaborative will work together to implement over \$130 million of trail improvements, including improved access and safety, enhanced environmental health for the region, and improved quality of experience.

#### **Prepare for Flood Season**

In Littleton, the typical flood season is from mid-April to mid-September, due to spring rains or summer high-intensity thunderstorms. Flash flooding from very heavy rain can cause rapid runoff in just a few minutes. It often causes flooding in streets and low-lying areas. The numerous small streams in Littleton such as Little's Creek, Lee Gulch, and Slaughter-house Gulch are subject to this common type of flooding. At roadway crossings of these creeks, the road surface could flood. Never attempt to cross a flooded road, or walk or bike across a flooded trail.

One way to mitigate the impacts of a flood is to have flood insurance. Premiums can vary depending on the risk at a particular property. Littleton participates in the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP), which makes flood insurance available to any property in the city limits.

Flood insurance is available and recommended even if a property or house is not located within a mapped floodplain. Properties located in a FEMA floodplain with a Federally-backed mortgage are required to carry flood insurance.

Littleton also participates in the Community Rating System (CRS) program which provides discounted flood insurance premiums for residents. Information about whether a property is located in a floodplain or has other flood risk, is available from the Public Works Department/Engineering staff. Call 303-795-3865 and ask for the Floodplain Administrator.

The following information and assistance are available:

- Potential flooding risk at a property
- FEMA floodplain and floodway maps, floodplain elevation information, and flood depths. Information can be retrieved based on a particular address.
- Mile High Flood District floodplain maps, elevations, and depths. Information can be retrieved based on a particular address.
- Flood insurance information.
- Ways to help reduce flood risk at a property and financial assistance to do so.
- Special flooding situations or history of flooding.
- FEMA community number, map panel number, effective dates of the mapping, and the designated flood zone.
- Whether the property is located in a special natural area that should be preserved; wetlands, valuable

2 feet of moving water can sweep a vehicle away.

6 inches of moving water can knock a person down.

**?** fast FLOOD FACTS

Heavy rain can bring dangerous flash flooding.

Stay informed and stay safe. The city website also contains a number of resources and information regarding floods. Visit: www.littletongov.org/floodinfo.

#### Like the news in the Littleton Report?

Get more news, more often by subscribing to the *Littleton Report Online* at **littletongov.org/news**.



# APRIL & MAY 2022 LITTLETON EVENTS

**APRIL 1 - JUNE 26** 

**Patterns of Consumption** 

On exhibit at the Littleton Museum





SATURDAY APRIL 5

Artist Talk: Kalliopi Monoyios

Patterns of Consumption

Littleton Museum, 2-3 p.m.

**APRIL 3 - 9** 

Bemis Public Library 125th Anniversary Celebration

Celebrate 125 years of library service with drop-in activities throughout the week.

Special events throughout the day **Saturday**, **April 9** including *The Snowy Churro* food truck from 3-5 p.m.







FRIDAY APRIL 8

Littleton Public Schools
30th Spirit Celebration

Infinity Park Event Center

An evening of connection, inspiration, and community celebrating 30 years of making an impact for LPS students.

**APRIL 14 - 15** 

**Chalk Lines & Vines** 

Arapahoe County Fairgrounds



#### **APRIL 14 - 26**

**Venardos Circus** 

Aspen Grove





## WEDNESDAY APRIL 27

pARTy

Littleton Museum 5:30-7:30 p.m.

See art by Kalliopi Monoyios, create your own masterpieces made of plastic, and enjoy drinks and snacks.

## APRIL 30

National Drug Take Back Day

Littleton Police Department 10 a.m.-2 p.m.



Bring all unwanted items to the LPD front parking lot at 2255 West Berry Avenue or visit DEATakeBack.com for other drop off locations.



#### WEDNESDAY **MAY 4**

State of the City

Ashley Ridge -Wedgewood Events Center 7:30-9 a.m.

SATURDAY
MAY 14

**Sheep to Shawl** 

Littleton Museum 10 a.m.-3 p.m.



Find more information at:

Littleton ROCKS.com





# Littleton Museum Planning to Update Main Exhibit

The Littleton Museum is in the early phases of looking at ways to update the permanent Littleton history gallery. The museum staff are seeking feedback from community members on ways to update the main indoor exhibit. The exhibit is original to the building opening in 2005. Visit www.littletongov.org/MuseumFeedback to provide feedback and ideas.

#### Victim Advocate Volunteers Needed

The Littleton Police Department victim services unit is seeking program volunteers. This unit provides crisis intervention, support, and referrals to victims of crime and traumatic events within the City of Littleton.

Volunteers may respond to cases involving:

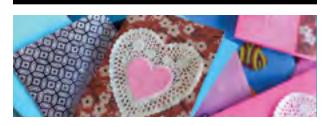
- Domestic violence
- Sexual assault
- Homicide
- Child abuseSuicide
- Traffic fatalitiesNatural death
- Other incidents when requested

#### Volunteer qualifications:

- At least 21 years of age
- Live within 30 minutes response time to Littleton Police headquarters
- Have a valid driver's license, reliable vehicle, and insurance
- Submit to a background check including a polygraph examination
- Able to commit to at least two 12-hour on-call shifts a month
- Commit to at least one year of service
- Attend mandatory meetings
- Attend 45 hours of initial training

Training for new volunteers will be held at the Arapahoe County Sheriff's Office May 17-June 18 on Tuesday evenings from 6-9 p.m., and Saturdays 8 a.m.-1 p.m.

Contact Andrea Feist, victim services coordinator, at 303-795-3703, or via email at lpdaf@littletongov.org for more information.



#### So Much Love

The Littleton community came together to help make this Valentine's Day magical for the patients at Children's Hospital Colorado Highlands Ranch by creating hand-crafted messages and words of encouragement. Aspen Grove had a goal to create handmade cards for 400 patients through the Love Letter program. Aspen Grove received 1,800 cards and loads of donated toys, obliterating the original goal and allowing cards to be distributed to kids at multiple hospitals across the state.

#### One Book One Littleton: Save the Date

Explore how belonging to a place brings balance

Bemis Public Library is once again teaming up with the Friends of the Littleton Library and Museum to bring *One Book One Littleton* to the community. The city-wide reading program will kick off in May with the book announcement and culminate with a ticketed writing workshop, author reception, and keynote on Sunday, September 25, at the Bemis Public Library.

The library introduced *One Book One Littleton* in 2021 with the theme of "community" and the goal of encouraging fellow citizens to rejoin conversations and foster fellowship after a year of lockdowns and isolation. This year, the program will focus on the theme of "place" and how nurturing a feeling of belonging to a place—such as a library or a community like Littleton—can help find center and balance in the world.

"By reading the same book and engaging in conversation around themes central to the human experience, we hope to strengthen relationships among community members," said Library Director Nancy Trimm.

Stay tuned for details on the book, author, author reception, keynote, book clubs and more. The Friends are seeking sponsorships for *One Book One Littleton* events, email friendslibrarymuseum@gmail.com for more information.

#### Board of Health Votes to End Mask Requirements in Schools and Public Places

LITTLETON REPORT

At a special meeting January 31, the Tri-County Health Department (TCHD) Board of Health voted to let mask requirements expire in Adams and Arapahoe counties effective February 5 in both schools and public indoor spaces.

Case trends following the widespread Omicron surge are now dramatically declining even more rapidly than expected.

For more information visit tchd.org.



#### **SSPR Board of Directors Election**

Nine individuals have filed as candidates for board of director positions in South Suburban Parks and Recreation's (SSPR) May 3 election. There are three openings for three-year terms on the five-member board. The candidates are Kate Arkin, Alexis Barrere, Pete Barrett (incumbent), Michael Kohut, David Lawful (incumbent), John Priddy, Susan Pye (incumbent), Kathy Turley, and Elizabeth Watson. Board Members Ken Lucas and Jim Taylor will continue to serve their terms, which expire in May 2023.

The five-member board of directors is elected at large, on a non-partisan basis. Voters will be instructed to vote for three candidates. The election will be a polling place election, with the option of obtaining an absentee ballot. This is a SSPR election and will feature only the election of board of directors' candidates.

The following polling sites for the May 3 election will be open 7 a.m.-7 p.m. for voting:

- Goodson Recreation Center, 6315 South University Boulevard, Centennial
- South Suburban Sports Complex, 4810 East County Line Road, Centennial

An eligible elector is a person who, on election day, is registered to vote in the State of Colorado; and either who is a resident of the district or who owns taxable real or personal property (or the spouse or civil union partner of owner) situated within the boundaries of the district, or a person who is obligated to pay taxes under a contract to purchase taxable property within the district.

Applications for absentee ballots are available and may be obtained online or at the Administration Office, 4810 East County Line Road. Applications will be accepted until 5 p.m. Tuesday, April 26, 2022.

For questions regarding the South Suburban election, email elections@ssprd.org or call 303-483-7011.



#### **Summer Adventures at South Suburban Camps**

Every day is a new adventure at South Suburban Parks and Recreation (SSPR) summer camps. Activities at full-day camps include games, crafts, swimming and more. At specialty camps, campers can try outdoor ad-



ventures like archery or BMX, explore the wonders of space and science, sharpen photography skills and much more. Campers can now stay active and have fun all summer long at two additional locations, Buck Recreation Center and the Sports Complex. Space is limited, so don't wait to secure a spot. View a full list of camps and sign up at register.ssprd.org.

#### Dive into Summer at Outdoor Pools with a Splash Pass

All four of South Suburban's outdoor pools open Memorial Day weekend. Enjoy unlimited admission to Harlow, Holly, Franklin and Cook Creek pools with the Splash Pass. Youth,

senior, and household passes are offered. Splash Passes are available for purchase starting May 2 at ssprd.org/Passes, or at any of the pools and recreation centers.

#### Active Adult Healthy Living Expo

Take advantage of health checks, enjoy interactive demos, and learn about local resources at the Active Adult Healthy Living Expo. Over 50 exhibitors will offer a variety of services and support to help older adults live happier and healthier. The expo will be held at Buck Recreation Center Friday, May 6 from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. The event is free, and registration is not required.

#### Annual War Memorial Rose Garden Pruning Workshop

Gardeners of all experience levels are invited to join South Suburban for the annual Rose Pruning Workshop. The workshop will be held at the War Memorial Rose Garden, 5804 South Bemis Street, Saturday, April 30 from 8 a.m.-3 p.m. The event is free, but registration is required. Learn more and sign up at ssprd.org.



# BEYOND BOO WHAT'S HAPPENING AT BEMIS LIBRARY?

Bemis Public Library | 6014 S. Datura Street | Littleton, CO 80120 | 303-795-3961 | Web Catalog: bemis.marmot.org

Celebrate 125 Years of Littleton's Library April 3-9, For All Ages Littleton established its first public library in 1897, just seven years after the town incorporated. Over

the last 125 years, the



Littleton library has had several incarnations-behind the counter at the town pharmacy, in the Carnegie building that now houses The Melting Pot, even in the Town Hall building-before relocating to its current home in 1965. Visit Bemis during National Library Week to commemorate this momentous occasion. Celebrate the long history of this beloved cultural institution with activities, giveaways and fun library facts.

#### **Seventh Annual Six Word Story Contest** April 1-21, For Ages 6 and Up\*



Annual Enter the seventh annual Bemis Public Library Six Word Story Contest. Cash prizes will be awarded to winners in three age categories: adult (age 19+), teen (age 12-18), and children (age

6-11). Winners in each category will receive: \* 1st Place-\$50 \* 2nd Place-\$30 \* 3rd Place-\$20 \* Awards will be announced in the library's enewsletter and social media accounts. \*Enter online at the library's website bemis.marmot.org. Click on the Six Word Story Contest button.

#### **YOUTH PROGRAMS**

#### **Construction Zone**

Friday, April 22, 2-4:30 p.m.—For Ages 3 and Up Drop in to the Children's Room to build with the library's new jumbo construction blocks. Caregiver supervision required.

#### Family Stories—Illustrating Your Story—Birthday **Traditions**

Friday, April 22, 3-4 p.m., For Kids in Grades K-5 Artist Carmen Lomas Garza is known for her colorful illustrations of memorable experiences and traditions with her family. In this workshop, educators from El Museo de las Americas will

reference Garza's painting, Barbacoa para Cumpleaños. Students will create their own illustrated family birthday stories.



#### May Take & Make: Bird Feeders For Preschool-Grade 5

Children can make and decorate their own popsicle stick bird feeder at home. Starting May 1, pick up a kit with supplies and instructions in the Children's Room. One per child while supplies last.

#### Play, Learn and Grow with Growing Readers Together May 11 and 18, 10:15-11:15 a.m.

For Preschoolers & Their Caregivers Melody Garcia from the Colorado State Library will present a two-part workshop exploring easy ways to fill everyday activities with literacy and science so young children are ready to read and thrive when they enter school. Children are welcome and encouraged to play along. Participants will receive materials to continue the learning at home.

May 11-Part 1: Growing Readers Through story time examples and hands-on play, explore ways to make the most of simple interactions with the kids in your life.

May 18-Part 2: STEAM Powered Play Supporting early science and math prepares children for a lifetime of learning. Enjoy a short story time and play with science and math at

#### **Oceans of Possibilities Summer Reading Program** May 23-July 31 For Ages Birth-Grade 12

the STEAM stations.

Pick up a reading log or sign up online to earn free books and other surprises. Visit bemis. marmot.org for more information about programs and activities.



#### **TEEN PROGRAMS**

#### Plastic Art-April 6, 5-6:30 p.m. For Grades 6-12\*

Help create a large-scale public art piece to be displayed on the grounds of the Littleton Museum using plastic in unique ways.

Teen Advisory Group—Grades 6-12 April 13 and May 11, 5-6 p.m.

#### Tweensday-For Grades 5-12\* Third Wednesday of the Month

- April 20: Peep Culture, 5-6:30 p.m.\* Create scenes from films, pop-culture, and books using marshmallow Peeps.
- May 18: Mario Kart Tournament, 5-6:30 p.m.\* Join a team for this high-octane video game racing tournament.

#### May the Force Be with You: Yoga and Meditation May 4, 5-6 p.m., For Grades 6-12\*

Let the Force flow as Heather the Yoga Nerd leads this sci-fi themed yoga and meditation workshop.

#### Laser T.A.G.—May 21, 5-6:30 p.m. For Grades 6-12\*

Join an after-hours game of Laser Tag at the library and learn more about the Teen Advisory Group. \*Registration required starting April 16.

#### **Teen Deck Graduation Party**

May 28, 9 a.m.-5 p.m., For Grades 5-6 Graduating 5<sup>th</sup> graders are invited to a personal introduction to the Teen Deck. Join in for special activities, prizes and a tour of the Deck's features. Mundo Mistico-For Ages 16 and Up

- April 1—Paraguay, 9:30—10:30 a.m.\*
- May 6-Peru, 9:30-10:30 a.m.\* Each month, the class explores one of the 20 countries worldwide that claim Spanish as the official language. In-person/virtual program: attend at Bemis or via Zoom.

#### **Board Games @ Bemis**

April 8 and May 13, 5-7 p.m.—For All Ages Drop in after-hours for board games. Pizza and snacks will be served.

Art Workshop with the **Boulder Museum of Contemporary Art** April 14, 2-3:30 p.m. For Ages 18 and Up\* Join BMoCA Educator Melinda



Laz for a hands-on workshop about the current exhibition, 3/ Works by Kevin Townsend. Create a piece of art inspired by the

#### Crafts at the Library

• April 16—Tee Totes 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. and 2-3:30 p.m. For Ages 10 and Up\*

Repurpose a favorite tee shirt into an earthfriendly reusable grocery bag. Both sewn and no-sew options available.

May 14—Sharpie Image Craft 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. and 2-3:30 p.m. For Ages 10 and Up\*

Make some permanent marks on the world with a Sharpie. Doodles, messages, and colorful patterns can become a truly lasting gift. \*Registration required starting April 20.

#### Gardening in Colorado—For All Ages

Hear a Master Gardener with the Arapahoe County Colorado State University Extension Office discuss challenges and solutions to local gardening issues.

- April 19—Pests in the Garden, 6-7 p.m. There are ways to keep plants healthy and pest problems at bay. Learn how to plan, plant and care for a pest-resistant garden.
- May 17—Planting for Pollinators, 6–7 p.m. Learn how to plan and plant a garden designed to support Colorado's native pollinators.

#### Romance Writing Workshops—For Ages 50 & Up\* April 21 and 28, 1-2 p.m.\*

#### May 5, 12, 19 and 26, 1-2 p.m.\*

Translating life experiences into written words can be difficult. These writing workshops, hosted in partnership with Think 360 Arts, will focus on sharing emotional connections through the romance genre.

#### **Plant and Seed Swap** April 23, 1-3 p.m.—For All Ages

Bring leftover seeds, houseplants, and seedlings to the library for this community gardening exchange. Participants will be entered into a raffle for a gift card to O'Toole's Garden Center.

#### Active Minds, 2-3 p.m.-For Adults of All Ages

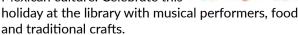
#### • April 25—The Titanic

Hear about the ill-fated maiden voyage of the Titanic as well as the discovery and salvage operation that began over 70 years later. May 23-Nuremberg War Crimes Trials Crimes against humanity are still part of the fabric of the world in which we live. Look back at the Nuremberg Trials and trace their impact on the world.

#### El Día de los Niños/El Día de los Libros

#### April 30, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. For All Ages

El día de los niños/El día de los libros (Children's Day/Day of Books) is an annual festival celebrating children, books, and Mexican culture. Celebrate this



#### **Englewood's Amazing Story** May 3, 6-7 p.m.—For All Ages

Local author Doug Cohn will discuss the history of Englewood—the characters, businesses, and events that shaped this small city.

#### Musical Concert: SaZón May 28, 2-3 p.m.—For All Ages

Enjoy original works along with SaZón's unique mix of jazz, Latin, and American standards.

\*To register, participate or join any of these programs go to the All Events Calendar from the Bemis home page at bemis.marmot.org.







# Economic Development Week Celebrating Littleton Businesses

The City of Littleton is launching a week-long celebration of Littleton businesses as part of International Economic Development Week May 9-13. Businesses are asked to submit a video promoting themselves and telling the city what they love about Littleton. The video will be featured on the city's social media platforms and Channel 8. Businesses are encouraged to post the video on their own social platforms using #EconDevWeek2022 and @CityofLittleton. The video should be no longer than a minute and emailed to tbarton@littletongov.org. Stay tuned to the City of Littleton's social media accounts Channel 8, and the Littleton Report Online for various events and programs during International Economic Development Week as the city celebrates local Littleton businesses.



#### The Lazy Greyhound

The Lazy Greyhound is the newest cocktail lounge in Downtown Littleton. Inspired by the Greyhound named Guybrush, this lounge is the perfect place to take a load

off and enjoy a cocktail. The space is very inviting with overstuffed leather couches, low lighting, and beautiful, exposed brick walls. Located at 2570 Main Street, the Lazy Greyhound features classic cocktails and new concoctions. The Lazy Greyhound is open Tuesday through Sunday from 3-11 p.m. and only those 21 and older are allowed. To learn more stop by, email thelazygreyhound@gmail.com, or visit thelazygreyhound.com.





#### **NKollective**

NKollective is the newest gallery to come to Littleton. Located at 7301 South Santa Fe Drive at the Aspen Grove Shopping Center, the store showcases fine art from Colorado artists. The store features everything from ceramics, jewelry, paintings, and mixed media, offering something for everyone. The gallery hosts monthly events, from artist talks to creative evenings to get the community involved. NKollective is open Tuesday through Sunday from 12-5 p.m. Stop by to view the beautiful pieces on display. For a list of events and more information visit www.nkollectiv.com or call 303-862-5028.

#### **Pierogies Factory**

There is a new restaurant in Littleton for pierogie lovers. Pierogies Factory, located at 7961 South Broadway, offers in-store dining, delivery, catering, and even a food truck option for events. Founder and owner, Cezary, moved to Colorado from Poland in 2005. He says he quickly realized Polish cuisine was not easy to find, so he promised himself he would change that. Pierogies are filled dumplings made by wrapping unleavened dough around a savory or sweet filling and cooking in boiling water. They are often pan-fried before serving and are featured in many European-themed restaurants across the state. With an almost 5-star rating on Google they are a must try. Stop by in-person, visit www.pierogiesfactory.com, or call 303-797-3649.





#### **Mathnasium of Littleton South**

When math makes sense, kids succeed. The Mathnasium in Littleton transforms the way students learn math. The center, located at 101 West Mineral Avenue, #110 in Southbridge Plaza, has specially trained math instructors who use a unique assessment process to determine exactly what each student knows and what they need to learn. Then they design a customized learning plan for each concept. The instructors also set aside time to provide homework help, ensuring kids understand their homework assignments to be better prepared to complete the work at home. The results are transformative and students see measurable changes in attitude, confidence, and school progress. Learn more about the Mathnasium at www.mathnasium.com/littletonsouth, call 303-795-3114, or email littletonsouth@mathnasium.com.